

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 751

By Davis

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Rogersville Police Chief,
Larry L. Lawson, Sr.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Larry L. Lawson, Sr., Chief of the Rogersville Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Chief Lawson was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens and to ensure the administration of justice and equity under the law; and

WHEREAS, raised in Bulls Gap by an aunt and uncle, Chief Lawson graduated from Bulls Gap High School in 1975 and began working with the Hawkins County Sheriff's Department in October 1977; at that time, he was the youngest individual selected to serve as Deputy in Hawkins County; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from the Police Academy in Nashville in 1978, he rose quickly through the ranks and became Chief Deputy before transferring to the City of Rogersville Police Department on October 29, 1987; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as Rogersville's Chief of Police after being so appointed on February 11, 1992; in this position, Chief Lawson earned the respect of his officers and the general public alike for the exemplary quality of his work and his dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to those around him, Chief Lawson was an exceptional leader who was "a dedicated family man and dedicated to his department," in the words of Rogersville Mayor Jim Sells; and

WHEREAS, a 26-year veteran of law enforcement who often exceeded his duty "to protect and serve," Chief Lawson had also served as the Bulls Gap Police Chief and as the Deputy Coroner of Hawkins County; in addition to his law enforcement service, he served for

numerous years with the Hawkins County Rescue Squad and was on the Board of Directors for the Hawkins County EMS; and

WHEREAS, Chief Lawson enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Regina Lawson, and was the proud parent of Larry L. Lawson, Jr.; Wesley Trent and Chad Trent, and the grandfather of Jordan Gage Lawson, and Makaylee Trent; and

WHEREAS, Chief Larry Lawson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in a public life dedicated to helping others, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Larry L. Lawson, Sr., Chief of the Rogersville Police Department, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his peerless career in law enforcement, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Chief Lawson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.